AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph **[0005]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0005] This object is achieved according to the invention in the case of a method of the type stated at the beginning by the status message being fed to a computer model of the installation, the ~~actual cost~~cost values arising in one or more components of the installation are determined by the computer model and compared with predeterminable set values for the costs and the deviation between actual values and set values is indicated.

Please replace Paragraph **[0006]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0006] The status messages of individual components permit a calculation of the ~~actual cost~~cost values arising in the components and of the overall costs of the installation. When determining the ~~actual cost~~cost values, the earnings from the delivery of the final product, in particular energy, are taken into account. Consequently, from a commercial viewpoint, not only the expenditure arising but also the earnings realized are taken into account. In individual cases, operation of the installation under conditions which are not ideal, causing greater expenditure, may be justified by increased earnings. The calculated ~~actual cost~~cost values are compared with theoretically determined set values and the deviation is indicated. As a result, a check on the costs arising is achieved independently of the conversion process actually taking place. At the same time, information on the cost-effectiveness of the installation is provided by the comparison of the ~~actual cost~~cost values with the set values. Status messages in the sense of the invention may in this case be analog and binary measured variables and derived status signals from parts of the installation and components.

Please replace Paragraph **[0008]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0008] In a first advantageous configuration, when determining the ~~actual cost~~cost values, the expenditure on basic operating materials, in particular the fuel, is taken into account. This expenditure provides information on the actual, directly operation-related financial investment.

Please replace Paragraph **[0009]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0009] According to a second advantageous configuration, when determining the ~~actual cost~~cost values, the expenditure on the installation, in particular for depreciation, own consumption, personnel and/or maintenance, is taken into account. As a result, along with the expenditure on fuel, the wear and tear of the installation and the components, payroll costs and other regular expenses are also included. The computer model then identifies less demanding operation of the installation, which for example reduces the depreciation or extends the maintenance intervals. In spite of possibly higher fuel expenditure, altogether lower operating costs can be achieved.

Please replace Paragraph **[0010]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0010] If a predeterminable deviation of the ~~actual cost~~cost values from the set values is exceeded, a warning is advantageously output. This warning makes the operating personnel aware of the situation and draws their attention to uneconomical operation of the installation. The cost consciousness of the operating personnel is therefore significantly improved.

Please replace Paragraph **[0011]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0011] According to an advantageous development, if a predeterminable deviation of the ~~actual cost~~cost values from the set values is exceeded, a manual input by a user is requested. The manual input serves as confirmation that the uneconomical operation is actually intended, for example for purposes of testing the installation. This input further improves once again the cost consciousness of the operating personnel.

Please replace Paragraph **[0012]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0012] In an advantageous configuration, if a predeterminable deviation of the ~~actual cost~~cost values from the set values is exceeded, a request to check the component with the deviation is output. The method according to the invention not only indicates increased costs, but also provides solution proposals for reducing costs. The corresponding technical information can be input into the computer model and taken into account in the simulation of the conversion process. Malfunctions of the installation can be quickly identified and eliminated.

Please replace Paragraph **[0024]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0024] Figure 2 shows a flow diagram of the method according to the invention. In step I, the operating state of the components 11.1, 11.2, ..., 11.6 is recorded by means of status messages 17.1, 17.2, ..., 17.6. These status messages 17.1, 17.2, ..., 17.6 are transmitted in step II to the computer model 20. According to step III, the computer model 20 determines the ~~actual cost~~costs arising in the individual components 11.1, 11.2, ..., 11.6. In step IV,

the determined ~~actual cost~~costs are compared with the predetermined set values for the costs. If the difference is less than a predetermined deviation, this is transmitted to a display 23 according to branch 1. This display 23 may be integrated into the input and output module 21 or be fed to the input and output module 19 via the PCS 18. In the event of relatively great differences, a warning requesting acknowledgement 24 is output, according to branch 0. A request for testing may be output together with the warning.

Please replace Paragraph **[0030]** with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0030] Major deviations of the calculated ~~actual cost~~costs from the predetermined set values are displayed on the input and output module 21 and require an acknowledgement by the operating personnel. As a result, not only is a check kept on the costs while the installation 10 is in operation, but the cost consciousness of the operating personnel is also significantly improved.